

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USLO PEKING

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, PFOR, CH, US

SUBJ: NCUSCT MEETING WITH PRCLO CHIEF HUANG CHEN

REF: STATE 108565 (NOTAL)

TOKYO PASS EA/PRCM DIRECTOR ARMSTRONG

1. NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR UNITED STATES-CHINA TRADE (NCUSCT) CHAIRMAN D. C. BURNHAM AND PRESIDENT C. PHILLIPS MET WITH PRC LIAISON OFFICE (PRCLO) CHIEF HUANG CHEN MAY 24. PRC SIDE INCLUDED COMMERCIAL SECTION CHIEF CHANG TSIEN-HUA, HUANG WEN-CHUN, T'UNG CHIH-KUANG. NCUSCT STRONGLY EMPHASIZED ITS ACTIVITIES DESIGNED PROMOTE AMELIORATION US-PRC TRADE IMBALANCE.

2. TONE OF MEETING WAS DECIDEDLY UP-BEAT. HUANG CHEN SAID HE AND OTHER PRCLO OFFICERS PLANNED SOON TO MAKE SEVERAL VISITS TO INDUSTRIAL AND AGRICULTURAL AREAS OUTSIDE WASHINGTON UNDER NCUSCT AUSPICES, NOTING THAT THE SECRETARY AND SEVERAL DEPTOFFS HAD SUGGESTED THAT TRAVEL AROUND COUNTRY WOULD BE "GOOD IDEA." CHANG SAID HE WOULD

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DEFINITELY ATTEND NCUSCT LUNCHEON DURING ANNUAL MEETING

JUNE 3. HUANG CHEN SAID HE "WOULD ATTEND JUNE 3 DINNER BY THE THREE COMMITTEES INVOLVED IN US-CHINA CULTURAL AND COMMERCIAL EXCHANGE, IF SECRETARY KISSINGER ATTENDED," AND OTHERS FROM PRCLO WOULD ATTEND IN ANY CASE.

3. NCUSCT OFFICERS MENTIONED HK STANDARD ARTICLE ON NCUSCT EXPERIENCE AT CANTON FAIR IN LOW KEY ALONG LINES OUTLINED REFTTEL. PRCLO OFFICIALS APPARENTLY NOT FAMILIAR WITH REPORT, BUT HUANG CHEN INDICATED PRCLO "FULLY AWARE" PRESS REPORTING "OFTEN UNRELIABLE," AND EXPRESSED UNDERSTANDING NCUSCT POSITION.

4. IN RESPONSE NCUSCT QUERY RE CCPIT VISIT, HUANG CHEN REAFFIRMED IT WOULD "DEFINITELY TAKE PLACE," BUT DID NOT SAY WHEN. CHANG SAID WITH REGARD NCUSCT REITERATION SUGGESTION INTERIM VISITS OF STATE TRADING CORP DELEGATIONS, THAT PRCLO HAD REFERRED QUESTION TO PEKING AND WAS AWAITING RESPONSE. (NCUSCT PHILLIPS REGARDS THIS REMARK BY CHANG AS TYPICALLY LESS FORTHCOMING THAN EARLIER STRONG HINT BY HUANG WEN-CHUN THAT SUCH DELEGATION VISITS WOULD TAKE PLACE, AND DOES NOT INTERPRET REMARKS AS HAVING NEGATIVE IMPLICATIONS.)

5. IN SEPARATE DEVELOPMENT, NCUSCT HAS RECEIVED LETTER FROM U.S. CORP MEMBER WHICH JUST RETURNED FROM COMMERCIAL NEGOTIATIONS IN PEKING. LETTER STATES THAT AT EACH OF THREE STATE TRADING CORPS THEY VISITED, U.S. CORP REPS WERE POINTEDLY TOLD THAT CHINESE WERE "PLEASED THAT YOU HAVE JOINED THE NATIONAL COUNCIL. PLEASE TELL THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON YOUR RETURN THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE CCPIT ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO THEIR VISIT TO THE U.S." CORP REPS SAY THEY BELIEVE THEY WERE "GIVEN PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT BECAUSE" THEY "WERE MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL."

6. NCUSCT, WHICH CONFOUNDED BY CHINESE SEE-SAW MANIPULATION OF ATMOSPHERE ITS RELATIONS WITH PRC, NEVERTHELESS HEARTENED BY ABOVE RECENT CHINESE EXPRESSIONS OF BENEVOLENCE, AND DARES HOPE FOR SOME SORT OF GESTURE ON COMMERCIAL EXCHANGES AT OR BEFORE JUNE 3 APPEARANCE AT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NCUSCT ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION. BROWN

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